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Touchy Topics



In English speaking societies when people meet each other for the first time, they talk about things like family, work, school, or sports. They ask questions like "Do you have any brothers or sisters?", "Where do you work?", "What school do you go to?", and "Do you like sports?" They also ask questions like "Where do you come from?" and "Where do you live?" These are polite questions. They are not personal or private.

But some things **are** personal or private, and questions about them are not polite. People do not ask questions about a person's salary. They do not ask how much someone paid for something. It is OK to ask children how old they are, but it is not polite to ask older people their age. It is also not polite to ask people questions about politics or religion unless you know them very well. People do not ask unmarried people "Why are you single?" and they do not ask a married couple with no children "Why don't you have any children?"

Martial Arts



The martial arts are types of self-defense. They began in Japan hundreds of years ago as ways of fighting. Martial arts developed because soldiers needed to train for real wars. After some time people began to think of these training exercises as sports, but they didn't become real sports with competitions until about a hundred years ago.

Judo, for example, is a type of wrestling without using weapons. Judo wrestlers wear special white jackets when they are in competition.

Karate is another way of fighting without weapons. It became a sport in the 1920s. The feet and the hands are very important in this sport. Karate is different from judo because you do not try to throw the other person to the ground in karate.

Kung fu is the Chinese form of karate.

Kendo is completely different. In kendo you use long sticks made of wood. In competition you have to try to hit the other person with your stick. The one who does this is the winner.

Martial arts like these are very popular now because they are often seen in films. Because people like to see this type of action, there are now hundreds of clubs where you can practice martial arts.

Comprehension Exercises

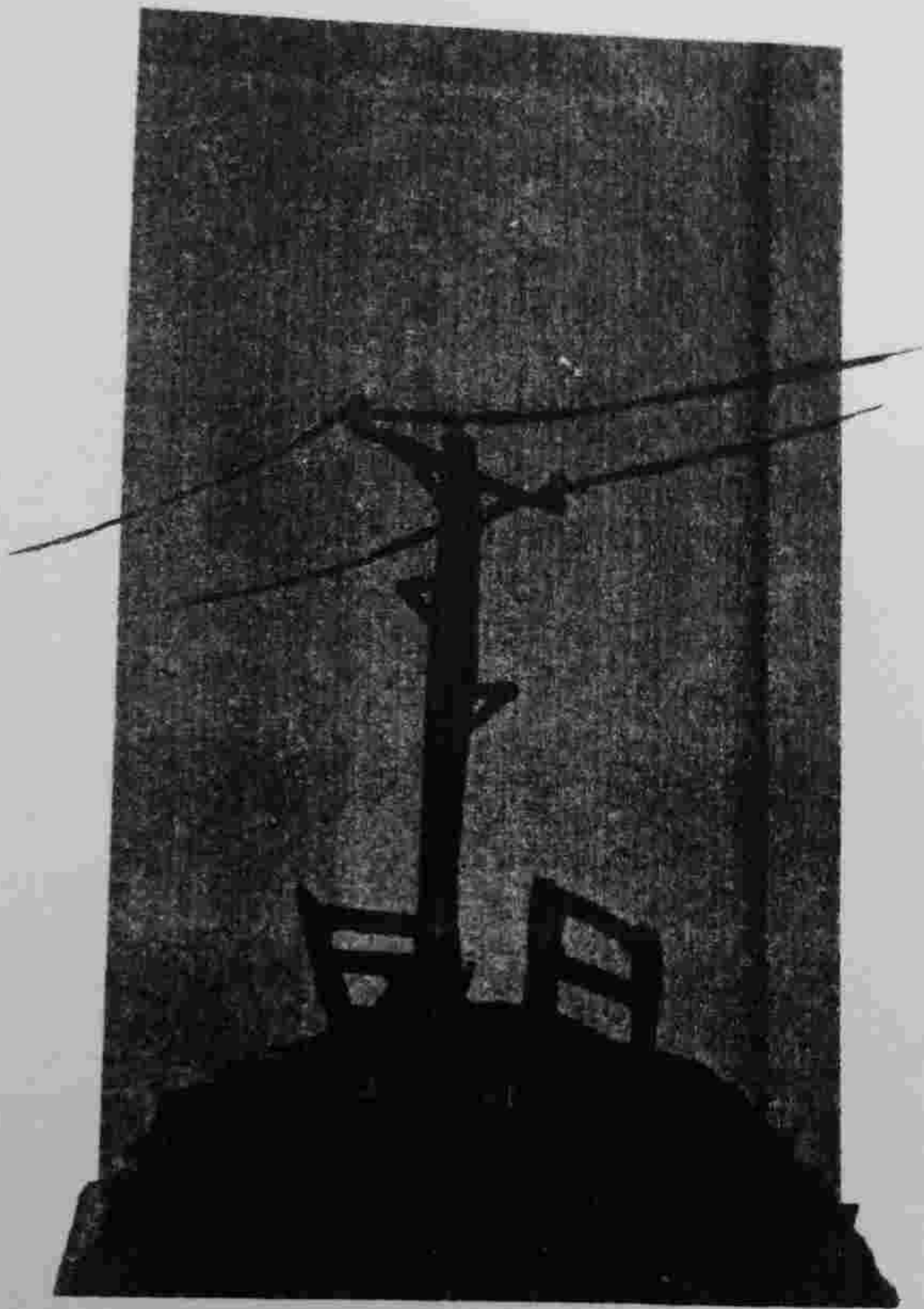
A. Put "T" for *true* and "F" for *false* statements.

- 1. In karate, you do not have to throw people to the ground.
- 2. Kendo is not a type of self-defence.
- 3. In judo, weapons are used.
- 4. We do not use weapons in kung fu.
- 5. In kendo, the person who hits the other with the stick is the winner.
- 6. The feet and the hands are important in kung fu.

B. Choose the *best* items.

- 1. Karate is very similar to -----.
 - a. kendo
 - b. wrestling
 - c. kung fu
 - d. judo
- 2. In -----, we use long sticks.
 - a. kendo
 - b. karate
 - c. kung fu
 - d. judo
- 3. In -----, you try to throw the other person to the ground.
 - a. kendo
 - b. karate
 - c. kung fu
 - d. judo

Energy and the Sun



All the useful energy at the surface of the earth comes from the activity of the sun. The sun heats and feeds mankind. Each year it provides men with two hundred million tons of grain and nearly ten million tons of wood.

Coal, oil, natural gas, and all other fuels are stored-up energy from the sun. Some was collected by this season's plants as carbon compounds. Some was stored by plants and trees ages ago.

Even waterpower derives from the sun. Water turned into vapor by the sun falls as rain. It courses down the mountains and is converted to electric power.

Light transmits only the energy that comes from the sun's outer layers, and much of this energy that is directed toward the earth never arrives. About nine-tenths of it is absorbed by the atmosphere of the earth. In fact, the earth itself gets only one half-billionth of the sun's entire output of radiant energy.

Comprehension Exercises

A. Put "T" for *true* and "F" for *false* statements.

- T. 1. The activity of the sun supplies the surface of the earth with useful energy.
- T. 2. Millions of tons of grain and wood come directly from the sun.
- F. 3. All stored-up energy was kept up by plants and trees ages ago.
- T. 4. Waterpower is a source of energy derived from the sun.
- T. 5. The atmosphere of the earth doesn't let the entire energy of the sun reach the earth.

B. Choose the *best* item.

1. The underlined 'it', in paragraph 1, refers to the -----.
- earth
 - sun
 - energy
 - activity
2. According to the passage, ----- ten million tons of wood is produced on the earth every year.
- almost *nearly*
 - only
 - exactly
 - over

Headaches



All people have headaches at some time during their lives. Some headaches are very weak and some are very strong. Some people with strong headaches go immediately to the doctor. In the past, doctors gave these people aspirin and told them to go home. Now doctors think they made a mistake. A headache is not a disease, but the result of a disease. Now they want to find the disease that causes headaches.

Toothaches and hunger can cause headaches. A dentist and food can cure these headaches. A continuous, strong headache, however, might be caused by a bad disease, such as a brain tumor – an extra growth inside the brain.

Nervous headaches are usual in today's life. A person who must drive in crowded streets might get a headache. A doctor has found that hard-working people have the most headaches. These people work very hard to get what they want. The best cure for a nervous headache is sleep. Another kind of headache is caused by sadness. The person gets headaches because he has a problem that he cannot solve. He needs help from a psychiatrist to stop his headaches.

People have tried many ways to cure headaches. Long ago some people opened the head to let out devils that they thought made the head hurt. Today, modern medicine uses drugs to make the blood vessels smaller. Any medicine or drink that makes the blood vessels larger only makes the headache worse.

Comprehension Exercises

A. Put "T" for *true* and "F" for *false* statements.

1. Inability to solve a problem always results in a headache.
- T 2. A person who drives in crowded streets gets a headache.
- T 3. Sleep cures most nervous headaches.
- F 4. Drugs making the vessels larger cure the headaches.
- F 5. A headache is the cause of a disease.

B. Choose the *best* items.

1. Headaches are -----.
 - a. always strong
 - b. curable diseases
 - c. usual in today's life
 - d. caused in crowded streets
2. The best cure for a nervous headache is to -----.
 - a. take an aspirin
 - b. let out devils

Lesson 2

A. Simple present tense of verbs other than be

A1. All verbs other than **be** have two forms in simple present tense:

an **-s form** and a **simple form**.

The **- s form** is used with the third person singular subjects , (He / She/ Ali/ My brother . . .) and the **simple form** is used with all other persons.

A2. Notice the **form** of the **verbs**.

I	live in this city.
You	_____
They	have a good teacher.
The students	_____
Mina	lives in this city.
Reza	
He	has a good teacher.
She	

Exercise 1. Use the correct **form** of the **verbs**.

My name.....(be) Hamid . I(be) a university student.
I (study) physics at Rajaee University in Tehran.
I.....(have) many interesting classes, there. My father
(be) a carpenter. He (have) a workshop in Shiraz.
He(work)very hard. He (be) a very active person.

4. Mrs. Shirazi is a hairdresser. () c. I people in a hospital.
5. Mrs. Rad is an interpreter. () d. They things.
6. I'm a nurse. () e. Shehair.
7. I'm a receptionist . () f. He **flies** a plane.
8. Those are shop assistants. () g. He cars.
- () h. I in a hotel.

A3. Notice the **question** forms and positive short **answers**.

Do	I we they you the boys	live in this city?	Yes,	I you we they	do.
Does	Minoo Rahim he she	have a good teacher ?	Yes,	she he	does.

6. Mrs. Green has a severe headache.
7. Reza is very hungry.
8. Mr. and Mrs. Jamali leave in the afternoon.
9. Shiva studies English at night.
10. The boy is from Yasuj.

A4. Notice the **negative** forms .

I You We You and I The girls	don't	live in this city
He She The girl The student	doesn't	

Examples : Nazi goes to the cinema on Fridays.

Ali comes from Shiraz.

I speak three languages.

B. Adverbs of frequency

B1. Single - word adverbs of frequency and their meanings are :

always	_____	100 % = all of the time
usually	_____	= most of the time
often	_____	50 % = much of the time
sometimes	_____	= some of the time
seldom	_____	= almost never
never	_____	0 % = not at any time

B2. Use **always** , **usually** , before the main verb.

		main verbs	
I	always	get up	at 5 .
You	usually	leave	home late.
He	never	goes	to the cinema alone.

B3. Use **always** , **usually** , after forms of **be** .

I	am	usually busy.
He	is	always polite.
They	are	never rude.

Exercise 6. Use the adverbs of **frequency** in their proper positions.

1. The students speak English in class. (often)
2. You pay attention to the teacher. (usually)
3. Mina is at home. (often)
4. Our teachers are in the library. (sometimes)
5. I am late. (seldom)
6. The university gives opportunities to the students. (often)
7. Parvin leaves her classes early. (seldom)
8. Teachers try hard to educate their students. (always)
9. I have milk with sugar .(sometimes)

B4. **Single -word** adverbs of **frequency** do not change their position in questions and negative sentences.

Amir is **usually** late to class.

Amir isn't **usually** late to class.

Is Amir **usually** late to class?

Isn't Amir **usually** late to class?

Exercise 2. Put the words in the correct order.

Example : Mary - now - here - is.
Mary is here now.

1. study - the boys - English - everyday - in the library.
2. the teacher - lunch - eats - at noon - at the restaurant.
3. Latif - has - coffee - usually - at night - here.
4. dinner - Zahra - eats - at night - at the restaurant - often.
5. Mahsa - to class - goes - in the morning - seldom.

B. Be : was - were

B1. **Was** and **were** are used in the simple past tense.
Was is used with the first and third person singular.
Were is used with the other persons.

I He She Mina	was	busy yesterday.
You We They Mina and Zahra	were	

Exercise 3. Use the appropriate form of **be** .

That boy's name Hassan. He born in Tabriz .

He twenty two and studies at Tabriz University.

His parents born in Tabriz, too. They fifty - four years old.

Exercise 4. Use was , were , am , is , are , have or has.

1. Betty busy yesterday morning.
2. Does Mary a ticket?
3. Ali and Reza in class now.
4. I an envelope , but I don't have a stamp.
5. The doctor sleepy last night.
6. I in the United States last year.
7. I a professor . I forty five years old.
8. The students here yesterday.
9. We in class. We an English class.
10. The teacher late today.
11. My brother married. He two sons.
12. We in the park last week.
13. It cold last night.
14. We a big breakfast every morning.

B2. Notice the questions and answers.

Questions	Was	he she Reza	at the party	last night?
	Were	you we they		

Answers	Yes,	he she	was.	Or	No,	he she	wasn't.
		we you they	were.			we you they	weren't.

Exercise 7. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate form of **be**.

1. We in our garden all day yesterday.
2. Hilda and I in the same class last year, but now we in different classes.
3. The wind last night very strong, but today it is.
4. They able to get in touch with Mr. Razavi last night.
He on holiday in another city.
5. I satisfied with her behavior before, but now I
6. Mary here now, but she here an hour ago.

C. Simple past tense (regular verbs)

C1. An - ed is added to the main verbs (**regular verbs**) to show the past tense.(Notice the time expressions with this tense).

I	solved	the problem	yesterday.
He / She			last year.
We			in 1983.
You			the other day.
They			this morning.

Exercise 8. Change into **simple past**.

Example: I study every day.
I studied yesterday.

1. Parvin walks to school every day.
.....
2. He watches a television program every evening.
.....

questions and discovering things for himself. Unable to adapt himself to the routine of school, however; he three months after beginning. His mother, a former teacher, then his education at home.

Edison first an electric vote recorder in October 1868.

C2. Notice the **questions** and **short answers**.

Questions	Did		
		Mina you I we they he	learn the new words?

C3. Notice the following **negative** sentences.

I You You and I The boys He She They We Tina	did not (didn't)	attend the class yesterday.
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Exercise 11. Change into **negative**.

Example : Zahra studied engineering last year.(medicine)
She didn't study medicine last year.

1. Paul wanted fish for dinner. (rice)

.....

2. Parastoo walked home yesterday. (two days ago)

.....

3. I invited all my friends. (all my relatives)

.....

4. The students repeated the words after their teacher. (the patterns)

.....

5. The girls talked in the yard. (in class)

.....

6. We attended a lecture yesterday morning. (yesterday afternoon)

Lesson 4

A. Wh - questions : who , what , where , when

Wh- questions begin with a question word, such as who(m), what, when, where etc. The rest of the word - order pattern is like "yes / no questions".

Who(m) refers to a person.

What refers to a thing.

When refers to time.

Where refers to a place.

The word order of wh - questions (object pattern) is as follows.

Question word + auxiliary verb + subject +?

Ali is in class.

(statement)

Where is Ali?

(wh- question)

I am twenty years old.

How old are you?

He studies English.

What does he study?

I live in Tehran.

Where do you live?

Reza attended school at 8 o'clock.

When did Reza attend school?

B. Present progressive

B1. Present progressive is used to express an action happening at the moment of speaking. It is made with a form of **be** + the **-ing** form of the main verb.

I	am	studying English	now.
Ali Mina	is	working in the garden	at present.
You We They	are	listening to the teacher	right now.

Exercise 3. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs.

It is 11 o'clock. Susan (talk) to Tom. He (phone) from Paris. you (have) a good time? What (be) the weather like? it (rain)? She (want) to know. Frank and his wife (get ready) for watching a film on TV. He (hear) Susan downstairs. "Who she (talk) to?" He (ask) his wife.

Exercise 4. Substitute the words given.

yesterday
every day

Reza is watching a movie now.
Reza watched a movie yesterday.
Reza watches a movie every day.

- | | |
|--------------|----------------------|
| 7. Reza | 12. watching a movie |
| 8. now | 13. last night |
| 9. last week | 14. we |
| 10. they | 15. now |
| 11. now | 16. you |

B2. Question forms

Am	I	disturbing you ?
Is	my radio	
Are	we	

Exercise 5. Write questions. Follow the model.

Ali can ride a bicycle.
Is he riding a bicycle now?

1. Hamid can swim.
?
2. Homa can drive.
?
3. The students can speak English.
?
4. I can play the piano.
?
5. We can read.
?
6. You can type.
?
7. Vahid can play basketball.
?

4. We can speak English,
5. You can read,
6. Reza can run,
7. I can drive,

B4. Verbs such as **see, hear, feel, taste, smell, like, want, be, have (=possess), know, mean, understand, don't** usually appear in present progressive.

I **know** him.

He **understands** the lesson now.

Exercise 7. Practice the use of two kinds of verbs.

<p>like</p> <p>help</p>	<p>They are waiting for John.</p> <p>They like John.</p> <p>They are helping John.</p>
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- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. understand 2. visit 3. know | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. the book 7. read 8. want |
|--|---|

C. Nouns and adjectives as modifiers

C1. Both a **noun** and an **adjective** can appear before a head noun as a modifier. Such modifiers are almost always singular.

		modifier (adjective)	head noun
sg.	The store is new. → It is a	new	store.
pl.	The stores are new. → They are	new	stores.

		modifier (noun)	head noun
sg.	The store sells books. → It is a	book	store.
pl.	The stores sell books. → They are	book	stores.

Exercise 8. Combine the sentences.

Examples:

- It's a class. It's small.

- **It's a small class.**

- It's a watch. I carry the watch in my pocket.

- **It's a pocket watch.**

1. It's a book. It's green.
2. They're books. They're green.
3. It is a factory. It makes cars.
4. It's a watch. I wear the watch on my wrist.
5. It's an egg. It's fried.
6. They are fish. They live in seas.
7. It's soup. It's hot.
8. It's a spoon. It's for soup.
9. It's a shop. It sells shoes.
10. They're stores. They sell books.
11. It's a lamp. It's on a desk.